

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 3130

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINR, NI

SUBJECT: BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON MRS. F. Y. EMMANUEL

REF: STATE 062149

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. THE FIRST WOMAN TO REACH
PERMANENT SECRETARY RANK IN THE FEDERAL PUBLIC SERVICE,
MRS. FRANCESCA YETUNDE EMMANUEL BECAME PERMANENT
SECRETARY IN THE FEDERAL MINISTRY OF ESTABLISHMENTS IN
APRIL 1977. SHE HAD PREVIOUSLY SERVED AS PERMANENT
SECRETARY, CABINET OFFICE, PUBLIC SERVICE DEPARTMENT,
FROM JULY 1975 UNTIL HER PRESENT APPOINTMENT.

2. MRS. EMMANUEL WAS BORN ON SEPTEMBER 19, 1933 AND
EDUCATED AT METHODIST GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL, LAGOS (1938-40)
AND THE PRINCESS SCHOOL, LAGOSE(1941-45). FROM
1946 TO 1951 SHE ATTENDED HOLY CHILD COLLEGE, IKOYI
AND THEN SHE WENT TO UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, IBADAN AND
THE UNIVERSITY OF LONDON WHERE SHE OBTAINED A
B.A. (HONS) DEGREE IN GEOGRAPHY IN 1959. MRS. EMMANUEL
ATTENDED COURSES AT THE INDIAN INSTITUTE FOR FOREIGN TRADE
IN NEW DELHI IN 1969 AND THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC
ADMINISTRATION IN 1974.

3. THE SECRETARY JOINED THE PUBLIC SERVICE IN
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1959 AND WAS POSTED TO THE FEDERAL MINISTRY OF WORKS AND
HOUSING AND IN 1960 TO THE FEDERAL MINISTRY OF ESTABLISHMENTS.
SHE JOINED THE CABINET OFFICE, POLICE AFFAIRS
DIVISION, IN 1961. MRS. EMMANUEL SERVED WITH THE MORGAN COM-
MISSION SECRETARIAT IN 1964 AND LATER IN THAT YEAR WAS
POSTED TO THE MINISTRY OF TRADE. SHE REJOINED WORKS AND
HOUSING MINISTRY IN 1969 AND THEN RETURNED TO THE CABINET

OFFICE, ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION, IN 1973 .SHE BECAME SECRETARY, FEDERAL PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION IN 1975 .FOLLOWING THE JULY 1975 COUP, SHE WAS APPOINTED PERMANENT SECRETARY, CABINET OFFICE AND HELD THIS POSITION UNTIL HER CURRENT ASSIGNMENT.

4. MRS. EMMANUEL WRITES POETRY, SHORT STORIES AND PLAYS. SOME OF HER STORIES HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED IN AN ANTHOLOGY OF AFRICAN POEMS EDITED BY THE LATE LANGSTON HUGHES. SHE HAS ALSO HAD SOME POEMS AND PLAYS PERFORMED ON RADIO AND TELEVISION. A WOMAN OF MANY TALENTS, MRS. EMMANUEL IS ALSO A RETIRED MEMBER OF THE STEVE RHODES VOICES, A POPULAR SINGING GROUP.

5. MRS. EMMANUEL IS MARRIED TO A GYNECOLOGIST EMPLOYED BY THE LAGOS STATE MINISTRY OF HEALTH. THE COUPLE HAS ONE SON, APPROXIMATELY TWELVE YEARS OLD. SHE SPEAKS ENGLISH. END UNCLASSIFIED

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SHE IS A DYNAMIC AND ARTICULATE WOMAN, DESCRIBED BY THE U.K. HIGH COMMISSION AS ONE OF THE 'NEW BREED' OF YOUNGER PERMANENT SECRETARIES. SOMETHING OF A MILITANT FOR WOMEN'S LIBERATION, SHE ORIGINALLY APPLIED FOR THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE, BUT WAS OVERLOOKED AND HAD TO PUSH ALHAJI SULE KATAGUN, THE THEN HEAD OF THE FEDERAL PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION, TO CONSIDER HER APPLI-
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